

METRO



planning NEWS



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ORGANIZATION

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Derby's New City Manager

By Kristy Nunn and Christy Askew

March 6, 2006 marks Kathy Sexton's first day as the new City Manager with the City of Derby! Sexton has been with Sedgwick County since 1995, serving in several positions including Assistant County Manager. Her responsibilities have included county-wide budgeting, strategic planning, policy development, personnel management, and working with elected officials. Prior to 1995, Kathy worked in the Governor's budget office in Topeka.

Sexton earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English in 1989 and a Master of Public Administration in 1992 from Wichita State University. She is active in the community, serving as past-president of the WSU Alumni Association and is on the Board of Directors of Music Theatre of Wichita. Kathy is also active in the Rotary Club and Junior League of Wichita. In 2004, she was named one of the top 20 Women in Business by the Wichita Business Journal.

Kathy is very excited about this opportunity as City Manager. "Derby has seen a lot of change over the last decade and expects a lot more change," says Sexton. Derby has been striving with retail and restaurant business expansions and is hungry for business development, but also understands the importance of approaching development in a planned and thoughtful manner."

The Metropolitan Area Planning Department would like to congratulate Kathy on her new position and wish her the best of luck!

Historic Preservation News

By Kathy Morgan

Historic Preservation Funds Awarded

The Historic Preservation Office of the Metropolitan Area Planning Department was awarded \$20,000 in Historic Preservation Funds to survey commercial structures in the central business district. The study area is between 3rd Street and Douglas, from Waco to Washington, and along both sides of East Douglas from Washington to Hydraulic. Survey work is scheduled to begin this summer.

New Listing in the Register of Historic Kansas Places

The RDW Clapp House, located at 320 N Belmont, has been listed in the Register of Historic Kansas Places and will be submitted to the National Park Service for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The house was built in 1923 at a cost of

(continued on next page)



Wichita-Sedgwick County
Metropolitan Area Planning
Department (MAPD)
268-4421

Wichita Area
Metropolitan
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(WAMPO)
268-4391

Preservation News *(from page 1)*

\$150,000 for Robert Clapp, a prominent businessman and son of L. W. Clapp. The structure is significant as an exemplary example of the Tudor Revival architectural style.

Quarterly Meeting Announcement

On May 13, the Historic Preservation Office will be hosting the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review quarterly meeting. Fifteen Wichita properties will be reviewed for inclusion in the Register of Historic Kansas Places and the National Register of Historic Places. The meeting is open to the public and will be held in the 10th Floor Conference Room at City Hall on May 13th, 2006 at 9 a.m.

If you have any questions pertaining to Historic Preservation News, please contact Kathy Morgan at 268-4392.

501(c)3 Status Becomes Reality for Historic Midtown

By Janet Miller

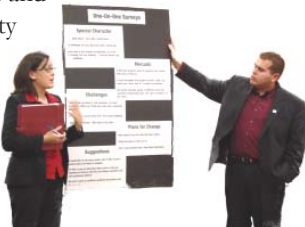
Four years ago, Historic Midtown Citizens Association (HMCA), one of the oldest active neighborhood associations in Wichita, authorized a sub-committee of its Board to investigate establishing a Community Development Corporation to undertake housing projects in the Midtown area. By July 2003, the Historic Midtown Community Development Association (HMCDA) had been officially incorporated. Its primary purpose is to combat community deterioration to improve the quality of life for all residents. One of its primary activities will be to promote the development of safe, affordable housing in the area through property acquisition and rehabilitation strategies.

In January 2004, HMCDA filed an application to the IRS to request 501(c)3 status. After three extensive rounds of Q&A with the IRS, and with the assistance of Wichita State University's Self-Help Network, the HMCDA gained 501(c)3 approval in August of 2005. Since that time HMCDA has been working to develop plans and strategies, investigate funding sources, and expand its Board. If you have questions about the Historic Midtown Community Development Association, please call Janet Miller, HMCDA Secretary, at 264-2988.

International Marketplace Survey Completed

By Dave Barber AICP

Work continues on the creation of an International Marketplace District centered at 21st Street North and Market Street in Wichita. A community kick-off meeting was held by the City's project consultant, the Greteman Group, in January to outline the process of creating an International Marketplace District that will eventually become the premier destination for



ethnic and international retail business, services and cultural entertainment / artistic events in the Wichita region.

Research efforts are now well underway, garnering input from the community itself, the broader Wichita community and potential visitors. In February, printed surveys in English, Spanish and Vietnamese were distributed within the project area. An online survey was also created and posted on the City of Wichita, the Greater Wichita Convention & Visitors Bureau and Wichita State University websites for city and statewide participation. 'Man-on-the-street' interviews were also conducted in late February. Completed survey results were presented at a neighborhood community meeting on March 14th. Documentation of historic properties will be completed by the end of March, with the branding and visual mapping phase of the project commencing in early April. As part of this work, a community brainstorming and visual mapping exercise will be held at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 25 at the Minisa Park Building, 704 W. 13th Street. All are invited to attend.

Survey results may be viewed at www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning. For more information on this initiative, contact Dave Barber at 268-4421.

South Central Neighborhood Moves Towards Approval

By Scott Knebel

The South Central Neighborhood Plan Steering Committee held over 20 public meet-

ings from September through January, using a public participation process to develop a 25-year neighborhood redevelopment plan for the area generally bound by Kellogg on the north, the Arkansas River on the south and west, and Washington on the east. Public input was also gained through a survey of neighborhood residents and businesses, as well as, a survey

of area high school students. A draft of the South Central Neighborhood Plan was presented at the South Central Improvement Alliance and the South Central Progressive Neighborhood Association February meetings, of which over 100 hundred citizens learned about the plan and provided feedback. The District Advisory Boards for Wichita City Council Districts I and III recently recommended approval of the Plan, and the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission will consider the Plan at a public hearing on April 20th. The Plan is scheduled to be presented to the Wichita City Council on May 9th and to the Sedgwick County Commission on May 10th for adoption as an element of the Wichita-Sedgwick County Comprehensive Plan. A draft of the Plan is available at the following website: <http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning>. If you have any questions pertaining to this Plan, please contact Scott Knebel at 268-4421.



Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization News

By Daniel Nguyen

Technical Advisory Committee Bylaws Amendment

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was created to provide technical support and make recommendations to the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WAMPO) Policy Body. As a result of the expansion in the WAMPO planning boundary, the Policy Body and the Technical Advisory Committee have expanded their membership to assure that communities that recently became a part of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) are represented and that the needs of the MPO continue to be met. The Policy Body expanded its membership in 2005, and then in consultation with the Kansas Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration, amended the TAC Bylaws on January 19, 2006, to provide an opportunity for new partners to participate in the transportation planning process. If you have any questions pertaining to this amendment, please call Nancy Harvieux at 352-4854.

South Area Transportation Study

On February 14, 2006, the Wichita City Council approved the selection of Wilbur Smith Associates to develop a South Area Transportation Study that will assess the future mobility needs of the southern portion of the WAMPO Planning Region. The study is a cooperative effort involving the cities of Wichita, Derby, Goddard, Haysville, and Mulvane, Sedgwick County, the Kansas Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Kansas Turnpike Authority. The study is expected to take over a year to complete. If you have any questions about this project, please call Nancy Harvieux at 352-4854.

Amendment of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The WAMPO Policy Body recently approved an amendment of the Transportation Improvement Program on March 16, 2006 in order to include recently funded projects and to accommodate a request by the Kansas Department of Transportation.

The Kansas Department of Transportation and the Cities of Wichita and Derby received funding through the Highway Safety Improvement Program to improve the overall safety of several intersections; and therefore, it became necessary to incorporate these additional projects into the TIP. In addition, KDOT requested that two Transportation Enhancement projects: 1) the I-135/Gypsum Creek Connection Project and 2) the K-96/Hillside Avenue Trailhead Project be pushed back for one year. The public comment and review period for the TIP amendment was from March 1, 2006 thru March 14, 2006. The WAMPO Policy Body then held a public hearing on March 16, 2006, at which time the amendment was approved. The TIP may be reviewed on the following website: <http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/Transportation/>. If you have any questions pertaining to the TIP, please call Nancy Harvieux at 352-4854.

WAMPO Regional Pathway System Plan

The WAMPO is about to kick-start a planning process to develop a Regional Pathway System Plan (RPSP) to assess the existing bicycle/pedestrian facilities and identify, prioritize, and recommend future connecting links for bicycle/pedestrian use. The RPSP is a cooperative effort involving local units of government within the WAMPO planning region, the Kansas Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration. WAMPO is currently in the process of hiring a consultant. The study is expected to take one year to complete. If you have any questions pertaining to this project, please call Aprajit Desai (Jeet) at 268-2278.



What's the Latest Scoop about K-254?

By Scott Knebel

Sedgwick County, Butler County and the cities of Wichita, Bel Aire, Kechi, Benton, Towanda and El Dorado have joined forces to participate in a regional planning effort to preserve the high-speed commuting capability of K-254 as a highway, to concentrate future economic development and associated infrastructure improvements within or near the six cities along the corridor, and to enhance the safety and beauty of the highway. Several town hall meetings were held to gain public input throughout the development of the K-254 Corridor Economic Development Plan. Discussions have begun to consider adopting the Plan as an element of each jurisdiction's comprehensive plan and how to collaborate implementation efforts. A draft of the Plan is available at: <http://www.sedgwickcounty.org/ecodevo/>. If you have any questions pertaining to this Plan, please call Irene Hart at 660-9862.

Welcome Aboard, Scott!



The Metropolitan Area Planning Department welcomes Scott Dunakey to its Current Plans Division. Scott has a Community and Regional Planning, Bachelor of Science degree from Southwest Missouri State University, now known as Missouri State University, and anticipates completing a Master of Community and Economic Development degree from the University of Central Arkansas this December. "Planning is actually a second career for me," said Dunakey. Prior to enrolling at SMSU in 1997, Scott worked as a business manager for a nonprofit organization for seven years. He graduated in 2001 and then completed one year of graduate level classes in the MPA program at SMSU before accepting a position with the City of Corpus Christi, Texas in 2002 as a planning project manager in their Comprehensive Planning Division. In February 2004, Scott became the Economic Development Director for the City of Siloam Springs, Arkansas. Dunakey was promoted as the Community Development Director and assumed responsibility for Parks and Recreation, Comprehensive Planning, the Library, the Cemetery and the Airport, in addition to his economic development duties. In December 2005, Scott joined our staff, as an Associate

Planner. Scott said, "I don't plan on moving again until I retire. It is way too much work!" The MAPD is excited to have Scott as a part of our team and also welcomes his wife, Kim, and his two children, Madelyn and Andrew, to the Wichita area.

Let's Clean the River!!!

By Libby Albers

We need your help! Come join the Sierra Club, the Arkansas River Coalition, various City departments, and several Neighborhood Associations in this huge effort to clean-up portions of the Arkansas River and Little Arkansas River. Last fall, volunteers collected over 1.2 tons of trash! Let's make our River even more beautiful. Remember, "Our River is Our Responsibility."

Volunteers should meet in the southeast Lawrence Dumont parking lot to obtain trash bags and clean-up instructions. Volunteers are encouraged to walk the banks of the River or bring a canoe. If you or your organization is interested in participating or have any questions about this event, call Libby Albers at the WATER Center at 337-9262.

What: River Trash Round-Up

When: Saturday, May 6 from 9 AM - Noon

Where: Meet in the Lawrence Dumont parking lot

Who: Many great volunteers!



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VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/



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